

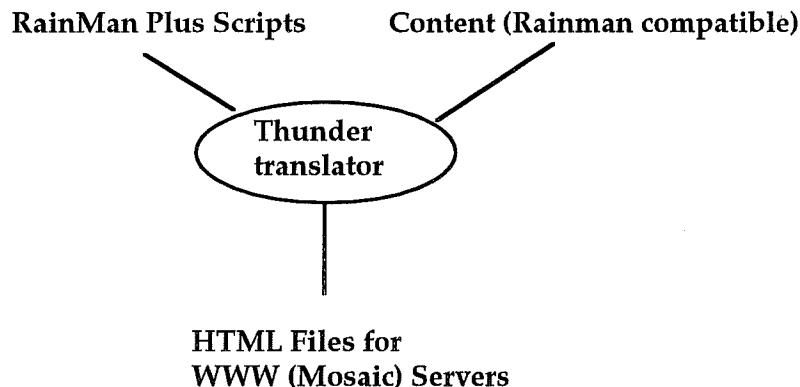
Lightning Proposal:
America Online Publishing on the Internet
Brewster Kahle
WAIS Inc
May 31, 1994
Confidential DRAFT

This proposal is in response to: Thunder and Lightning Taking the Internet by Storm with AOL Publishing Tools by Sunil Paul and William Marriot, May 25, 1994, where the initial project was defined as:

Lightning -- A fast-track technology that lets any AOL IP publish to the Internet with little effort. The Lightning strategy is to position AOL's Rainman Plus as a platform from which to publish to internet formats. Just as word processing applications gain market share by complying with their competitor's formats, Lightning will make Rainman Plus a more attractive interactive publishing platform. The target delivery of the product is August/September 1994. (See the attached screen shots of Mosaic and Rainman Plus for Time, Inc.)

Initial Functional Specification

Lightning is a project to transform data in the Rainman Plus format to a format compatible with popular internet tools, especially for World Wide Web (WWW) -- well known in one implementation called Mosaic. The format description for WWW is called Hypertext Markup Language, or HTML.



Features of the transformation:

- Graphics and text integrated into a form will be displayed in a similar format HTML
- List boxes will be translated to a list of actionable hypertext buttons in HTML.
- Database searches will translated to form-based HTML entry boxes that can then be tied to WAIS searches.
- Multiple AOL forms might be combined into one HTML page.
- Information Providers will have the ability to select on a form by form level the ability to translate to HTML for internet publication.
- Software library downloads will translate to ??? -- depends on our implementation of downloads -- see BA
- There will be no provision for sales and credit-card transactions over the Internet with this translation.
- Text in a scroll box will be presented as a separate HTML page with the first x characters visible as a clickable hypertext button.
- Chat, Newsgroup/MsgBrds, and Surveys will not be supported in the translation
- Items that are exclusively lists will optionally translate to Gopher Server Formats.
- Entire forms can optionally translate to Gopher Server Formats

Intended use:

- Run on a Unix computer that can be on the AOL premises or other places in production.
- May be imbedded in future systems such as Thunder for distributed server deployment.
- Will the resulting code be jointly owned by WAIS Inc and AOL?

America Online will:

Provide the necessary information, documentation, and technical assistance for WAIS, Inc. to understand the Rainman format and other information necessary to create the necessary Internet formats.

As necessary, create or modify the necessary forms so they are easily transformed into the necessary internet formats.

WAIS, Inc. will work in Phases:

Write software to transform information in AOL's Rainman Plus scripts and content files into HTML and optionally Gopher Server formats.

1. Design and Specification.
2. Initial implementation and demonstration.
3. Final implementation and acceptance. Report on suggested changes to RainMan Plus that would be helpful in the future.

Document Title: Time Magazine - Cover

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MARCH 28, 1994

TIME

Keyword: TIME

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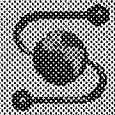
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Tigers On The Brink



Once considered a conservation success story, they are again sliding towards extinction. This time the world's nations may not be able to save the great cats.

By Eugene Linden Nagarahole

The great beast seems to materialize out of the dusk—a striped vision of might and mystery. Emerging from a thicket in southern India's Nagarahole National Park, the Bengal tigress is hungry and ready to begin another night's hunt. To nourish her 500-lb. body, she must kill a sambar deer, a boar or some other big animal every week of her adult life. Fortunately for her, Nature has given tigers the prowess to prey upon creatures far larger than the cats are. Her massive shoulders and forelimbs can grip and bring down a gaur, a wild oxlike animal that may weigh more than a ton. Her powerful jaws and daggerlike teeth can rip the victim's throat or sever its spinal column, making quick work of the kill. But there will be no killing at this moment. After padding along a park road for a mere 100 yrs., the tigress abruptly melts into the brush—here one instant, gone the next. Watching her disappear, Indian biologist Ullas Karanth, of New York's Wildlife Conservation Society, breaks into a knowing smile. "When you see a tiger," he muses, "it is always like a dream."

All too soon, dreams may be the only place where tigers roam freely. Already the Nagarahole tigress is not free. If she hunts during the day, she may run into a carload of tourists, cameras

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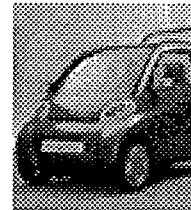


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